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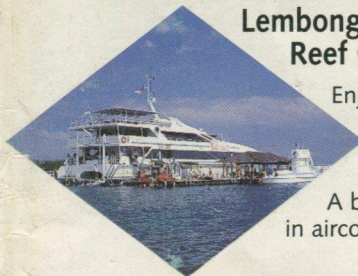
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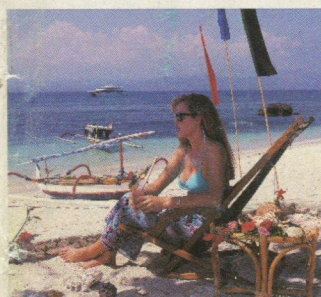
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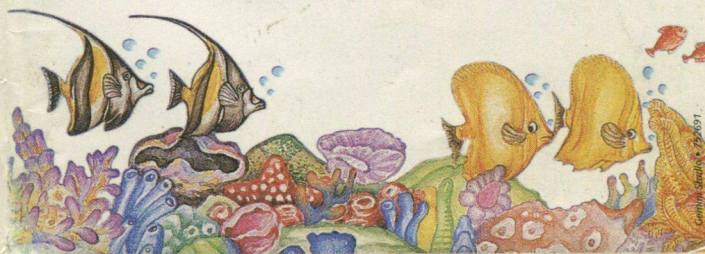
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- **Internet:** tracbali@denpasar.wasantara.net.id



## WELCOME TO BALI

This is the island that Jawaharlal Nehru referred to as "the morning of the world." There is a certain magic and freshness about Bali (area 5,700 sq km, pop. 3,000,000), with its many exquisite sights and scores of talented and charming people. Bali is an ancient, traditional society that is still incredibly alive and vital. Each year, Bali welcomes over a million tourists to her shores, and total hotel capacity is over 25,000 rooms.

Bali boasts the finest beaches in Asia, where the warm waters of the Indian Ocean lap the white sands of Sanur, Nusa Dua and Kuta. Bali is a shopper's paradise, and visitors are dazzled by its cultural performances, traditional dances and wide range of culinary delights to choose from.

Bali is the land of 10,000 temples. The *pura* is the central place for worship, civic, family and social gathering. Dance, drama, ritual and cremation ceremonies are an integral part of Balinese Hindu culture.

Volcanic peaks dominate the island, creating its landforms, regenerating its soils, and producing its life-giving rains. Mt. Agung (3,014 m) experienced a violent eruption in 1963, while Mt. Batur (1,717 m) to the west still simmers with activity. With the fertility of the volcanic soil, rice terraces sculpt the landscape of Bali, and its foothills boast an exceptional range of flora and fauna. A short, hot wet season is from November to March, and a longer, cooler dry season from April to October.

This map will help you to find your way around the island. We do hope you will have a chance to try some of the excellent services provided by our advertisers.



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**Sanur** Here the water is calm due to a fringing reef, which provides another diversion for snorkellers and swimmers. A stone's throw away from Sanur's golden mile of beachside hotels lies a string of ancient temples.

**Kuta** The best beach on Bali—a golden shore pounded by surfable waves. Local vendors hum with activity, while solitude seekers relax in uncrowded parts of the beach.

**Tuban** Near the airport, this beach resort features a tranquil atmosphere. A main attraction is Waterbom Park, a complex of water slides.

**Ubud** Once a sleepy village, Ubud is a mecca for seekers of the "real" Bali. See the full range of Balinese handicrafts, and watch traditional Balinese dances. Walk through deep valleys and rice paddies among the birds and ducks.

**Denpasar** Capital of Bali, this sprawling town has an interesting museum, shops and art galleries.

**Kintamani** Bali's own "drive-in" volcano, with spectacular views of misty lake Batur nestling below.

**Candi Dasa** In eastern Bali, this newly developed area brings life to a former small village. A quiet, laid-back atmosphere gives quick access to a number of sights.

**Lovina** A quiet budget resort on the north coast. Grapes are grown on trellises here and the sea is usually calm. Outriggers can be hired to visit the offshore island.

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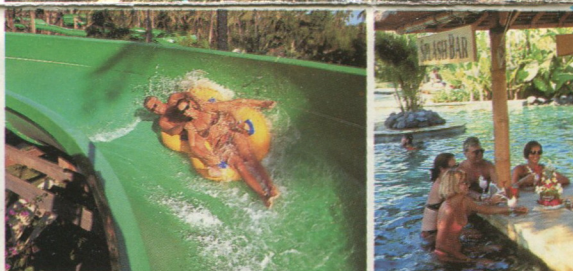
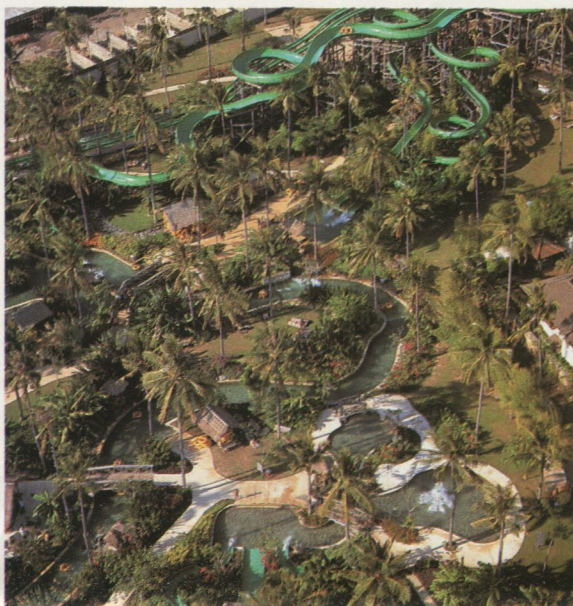
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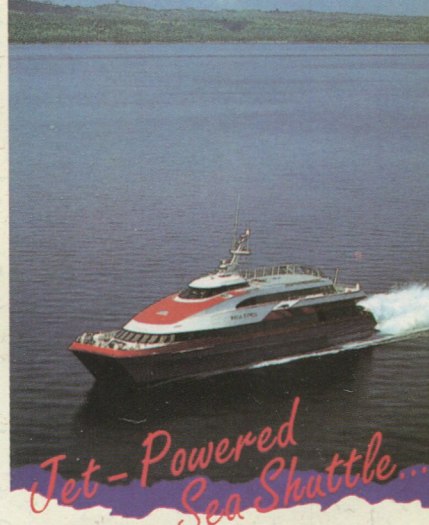


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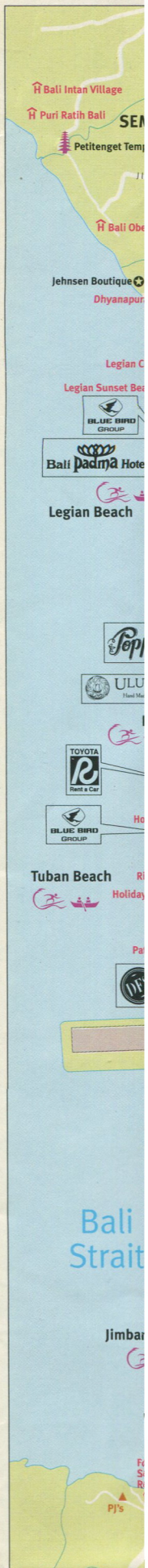
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## BALINESE TEMPLES AND OTHER SIGHTS

The *pura* or temple is the center of Balinese worship, ritual, and devotion, so be respectful whenever you enter. It is appropriate to put a bright yellow sash around the waist, and for men to wear either long pants or a sarong. Be prepared to make a nominal contribution toward the temple upkeep. For a fee, English-speaking native guides will be glad to give you a tour of the temple grounds.

**Besakih** The "mother temple" or greatest of all Balinese sanctuaries, this complex consists of 22 separate structures and is perched high on the slopes of Mt. Agung. The temples were built between the 14th and 17th centuries. Prominently featured are the three seats in the lotus throne, in which shrines are dedicated to Brahma (right), Siwa (center) and Wisnu (left).

**Gua Lawa (Bat Cave)** A state temple of Klungkung in eastern Bali. Legend has it that when Klungkung was ruled from Kusamba, a prince of Mengwi sought protection here.

**Gua Gajah (Elephant Cave)** Located two kilometers east of Teges near Ubud, this complex overlooks the Petanu River and consists of a Siwaite rock-cut cave, a bathing place, a monks' chamber, a number of Buddhist rock-cut stupas and statues, and several foundations. Dating from the 11th century, the temple features statues of Ganesa and Hariti and a sacred bathing pool.

**Pusering Jagat** This temple in Pejeng contains several interesting Hindu antiquities dating from the 14th century, which are now placed in shrines. Reliefs represent a story from the *Mahabharata* called the "churning of the ocean" in which gods and demons search for the elixir of life.

**Sangeh Monkey Temple (Pura Bukit Sari)** Said to have

been built in the 17th century, there is a statue here of Garuda. The temple is surrounded by tall nutmeg trees. Many monkeys roam the surrounding forest (watch your purse and eyeglasses!).

**Taman Ayun** Located in Mengwi, the temple consists of a forecourt, a central court and a spacious inner court. After a tall stone gateway, the inner court has rows of shrines and carved stone pedestals. Along the basement of the pavilions are relief series on Arjuna.

**Tanah Lot** Sunset is the favourite time to visit this isolated temple on the west coast. Its distinctive silhouette is a photographer's dream and nightly they crowd the coastline awaiting the spectacle. Perhaps the answer is to arrive in the daytime to see the temple-avoiding the crowds-and to leave long after sunset.

**Tirta Empul** "The Sacred Spring," Tirta Empul lies just north of Tampaksiring on the road to Kintamani. A major pilgrimage point.

**Uluwatu** Located on a tip of a peninsula, with a breathtaking view of the sea. The carvings which decorate the temple are very well preserved. It was built in the 11th century.

**Ulun Danu Batur** This is an imposing complex of nine temples, still undergoing construction.

**Ulun Danu Bratan** This highland destination is located just outside the small town of Bedugul. A beautiful temple is sited on the shores of Lake Bedugul and casts a neat reflection in its still waters. The temple takes on an ephemeral quality at dawn.

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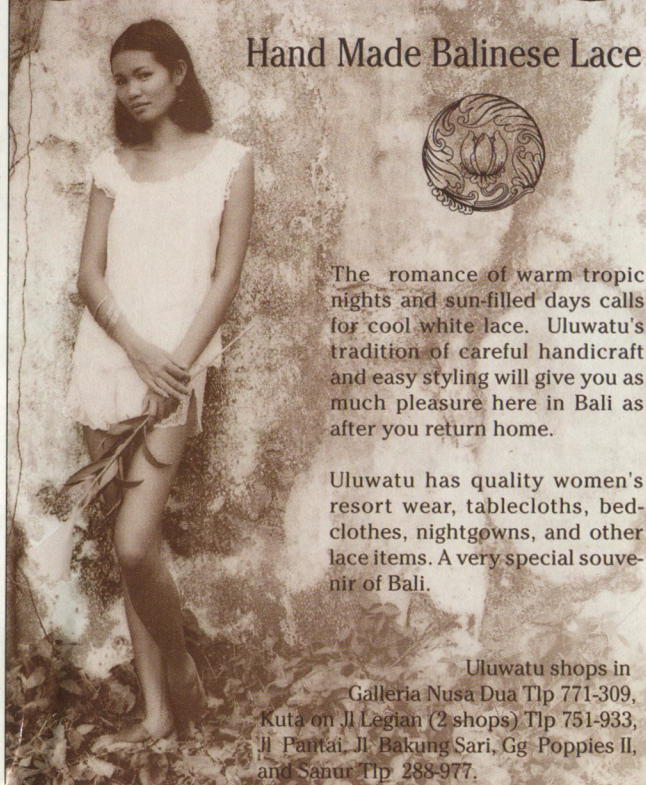


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## LOMBOK TEMPLES & THE OTHER SIGHTS

**Major sights** Most visitors settle in the west coast beach resort of Senggigi, or on one of the three Gili islands. A number of tour operators offer one-day tours of the island.

**Mayura Water Palace** The palace was built in the centre of Cakranegara in 1744 to serve Balinese court. The full moon of the fourth month of the Balinese calendar, is the date of Mayura's most important ceremony.

**Pura Meru** The largest Balinese temple in Lombok is just across the main road from Mayura. Built in 1720 under the orders of Anak Agung Made Karang of Singosari. The temple is the site of one of Lombok's biggest Balinese rituals.

**Narmada Water Palace** This temple is some 10 kilometers east of Pura Meru. Built in 1805 by the raja of Mataram.

**Gunung Pengsong** About 6 kilometers south of Mataram, offers some of the best views in Lombok on a clear day. Mt. Rinjani in the early morning, Bali's Mt. Agung during the late afternoon, and a panoramic overview of the rice field all day long. An important harvest ceremony is held around March or April.

**The Gili Islands** All three islands, Gili Air, Gili Meno and Gili Trawangan offer white sand beaches and clear water for snorkeling.

**East Lombok** Just beyond Kopang on the trans-island highway, you cross into East Lombok district. North of Sikur are number of villages where traditional craft are practiced. In Kotaraja blacksmiths using traditional techniques forge a number of farming implements. Nearby Loyok village specialises in bamboo and palm leaf handicrafts. Tetebatu village, a couple of kilometers north of Kotaraja. There is "monkey forest" nearby, the 50-meter high waterfall Jeruk Manis or Air Temer is 12 kilometers away. On the trans-island highway east of Sikur lies Masbagik where a producer-controlled pottery center has been established with the help of the New Zealand government. Further east, at Lenek village there is an excellent music and dance ensemble which performance at local events. North of Aikmel at Pasugulan is the point of departure for a 16-kilometer, 4-5 hours hike to Sembalun Bumbung through beautiful mountain scenery.



## TRAVEL TIPS

**Time** Bali is on Central Indonesian Time, the same as Singapore, 8 hours ahead of GMT and 4 hours behind Australian Eastern Standard Time.

**Tours and Travel Agents** A number of travel agents offer a variety of tours with knowledgeable, multi-lingual guides, including a half-day trip to Ubud or Sangeh/Mengwi or day-long tours including lunch and visits to shops and temples, with perhaps a *barong* dance at Batubulan.

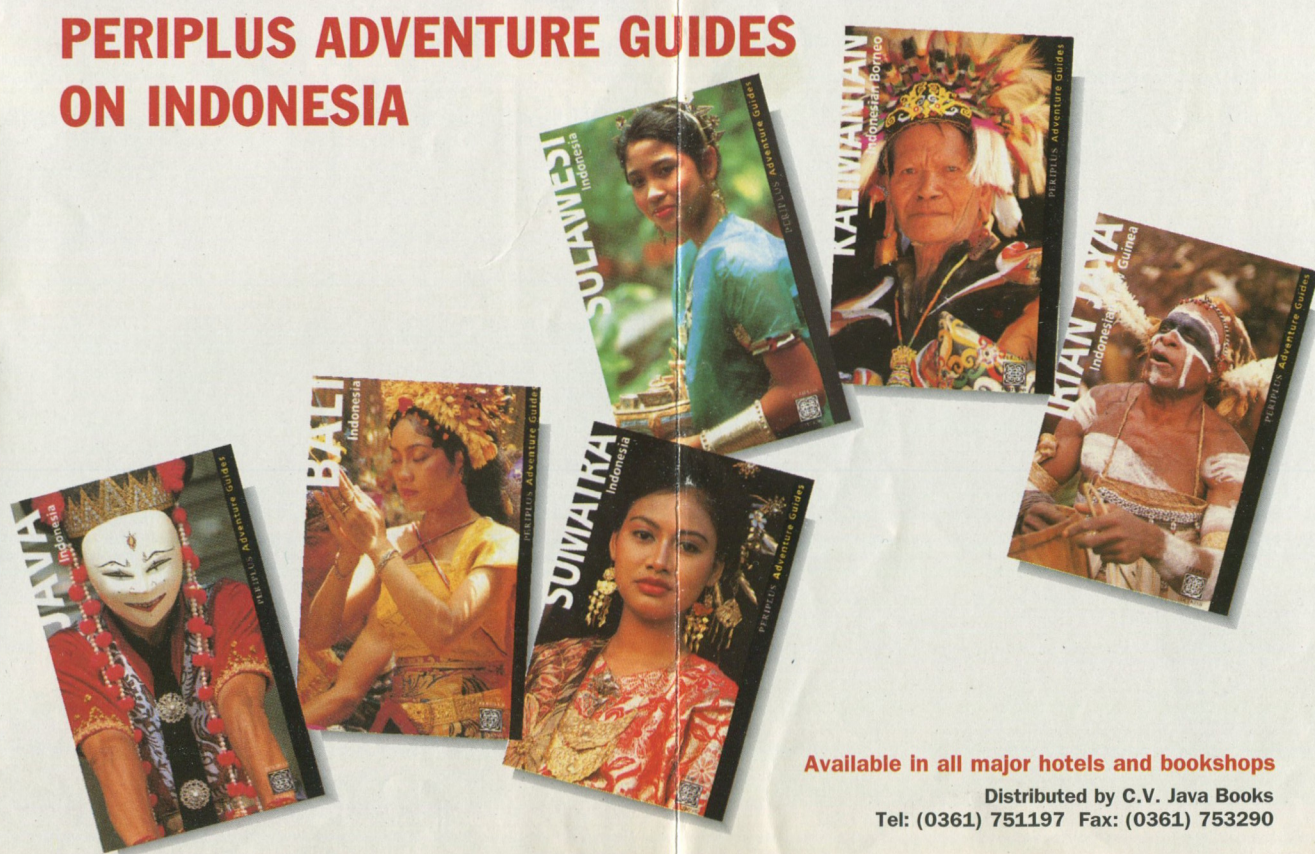
**Tipping** This is not a general practice in Bali, in the larger hotels a service charge is already included. In smaller hotels and restaurants tips are not expected. However, if the service has been good, a token (Rp500-Rp1500) would be appreciated. Porters at the airport should receive Rp500-Rp1500 per bag (depending on size). Tax and service charge amount to 21% on top of all bills, usually only in larger hotels and tourist establishments.

**Airport Taxis** The airport taxi service goes to Kuta Beach, Sanur, Denpasar, Nusa Dua and Ubud. Prices are fixed, pay the cashier at the desk in the airport and give the coupon to the driver. If you don't have much luggage, you can walk out of the airport to the main road and catch a public *bemo* minibus to Kuta or Denpasar.

**Rental Cars** Hotels rent taxis and minibuses with driver or English-speaking driver/guide. Families or small groups can charter a private minibus with driver.

**Public Transport** Many minibuses are now air-conditioned. Stopovers and side-trips can be planned and this is an ideal way to experience Bali at your own pace.

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